Date: Tue, 7 Sep 93 22:12:43 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #1059
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest   Tue, 7 Sep 93   Volume 93 : Issue 1059

Today's Topics:

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Tue, 7 Sep 1993 22:02:16 GMT
From: swrinde!gatech!howland.reston.ans.net!newsserver.jvnc.net!stevens-tech.edu!
vaxc.stevens-tech.edu!sarmstro@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Co-ax Question...
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

     I'm planning on buying a Diamond X-300A 2m/440 antenna, and
hooking it up to my HT, an Icom W2-A. (At least until I get another rig).
The main question that I have is about what kind of Co-ax to use. Should I go
with RG-8 (U or A), or should I use the RG-213? I'm going to be
running about 10-15 feet, mostly on the outside of the house. In the
near future, I also want to get an amplifier, if that has any bearing
on the Co-Ax use. This is the first antenna I'll be buying since I've
only had my license about 3 months, so I don't want to screw up...

Thanks in advance and 73's,

Scott

Date: 7 Sep 1993 21:35:17 GMT
From: koriel!newscast.West.Sun.COM!abyss.West.Sun.COM!sunspot!myers@ames.arpa
Subject: Co-ax Question...
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article 1@vaxc.stevens-tech.edu, sarmstro@vaxc.stevens-tech.edu () writes:
> I'm planning on buying a Diamond X-300A 2m/440 antenna, and
>hooking it up to my HT, an Icom W2-A. (At least until I get another rig).
>The main question that I have is about what kind of Co-ax to use. Should I go
>with RG-8 (U or A), or should I use the RG-213?

As I recall, from memory, RG-213 is essentially the same as RG-8 with
respect to loss. I believe RG-213 is supposed to have a "non-contaminating"
jacket, which is to suggest that it is more weather resistant than regular
RG-8. Practically speaking, if you use PL-259/SO-239 "UHF" hardware, the
difference is moot. I'd suggest sticking with RG-8 for your purpose.

There are more exotic types of co-ax available, such as Belden 9913 and
Andrews Heliax, but regular old RG-8 should work fine for you.

Opinions, anyone?

---
 * Dana H. Myers KK6JQ, DoD 466 | Views expressed here are
    *
 * (310) 348-6043 | mine and do not necessarily   *
 * Myers@Cypress.West.Sun.Com | reflect those of my employer
    *
 * This Extra supports the abolition of the 13 and 20 WPM tests *

Date: Wed, 8 Sep 1993 00:38:19 GMT
From: pa.dec.com!e2big.mko.dec.com!regent.enet.dec.com!gettys@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Co-ax Question...
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Sep7.170216.1@vaxc.stevens-tech.edu>, sarmstro@vaxc.stevens-
tech.edu writes...
> I'm planning on buying a Diamond X-300A 2m/440 antenna, and
>hooking it up to my HT, an Icom W2-A. (At least until I get another rig).

>The main question that I have is about what kind of Co-ax to use. Should I go
>with RG-8 (U or A), or should I use the RG-213? I'm going to be
>running about 10-15 feet, mostly on the outside of the house. In the
>near future, I also want to get an amplifier, if that has any bearing
>on the Co-Ax use. This is the first antenna I'll be buying since I've
>only had my license about 3 months, so I don't want to screw up...
>
>   Thanks in advance and 73's,
>
>   Scott

Use RG-213 since most of the run (actually any) of your run will be outside. RG-213 is what is known as non-contaminating jacket and RG-8 type (there is no such thing as RG-8 - since that is a non-active number) is contaninating. RG-8 may start out with less loss; but within the year, will actually have a greater loss than RG-213. For a longer run, (25 feet up) use Belden 9913 and N (NOT UHF) connectors except where you go around a moving joint such as a rotator. Then use RG-213 as a jumper again using N connectors as the connection.

/s/ Bob N1BRM

Date: 7 Sep 1993 17:18:04 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!
darwin.sura.net!news-feed-2.peachnet.edu!concert!quad.wfunet.wfu.edu!
bakalov@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: HELP: What is a good radio?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

[Article crossposted from triangle.radio]
[Author was Rudy Bakalov]
[Posted on 7 Sep 1993 15:31:38 GMT]

[Article crossposted from rec.ham-radio]
[Author was Rudy Bakalov]
[Posted on 7 Sep 1993 15:31:16 GMT]

Hi everybody,
I got my Extra license and now I am looking for a good HF transceiver. Your advice will be highly appreciated.
I cannot afford more than $1700 so I am looking at small radios

like FT-890 and ICOM. I have used all the KENWOOD models up to TS930 and I didn't like them at all. I doubt it I will even consider a KENWOOD unless someone convinces me that they have changed the design.

I am looking for a good DX/contest radio. It must be capable of working long hours on the air and of brutal QRM. I used to use FT757 as a RX and TS930 as a TX; I don't want to use two radios anymore nor I can afford it.

I also wonder if I need a built-in antenna tuner. I realize it is a good protection against poor SWR, but I don't think I will ever try to use my 2m HT antenna. Plus, I really like the MFJ's Versa tuner. Shall I invest my money in extra filters instead?

I also must make sure the power supply can handle 220 VAC since I will be leaving for Germany soon.

As you can see I am very picky and that is why I need some advice. I look forward to hearing from you.

73, Rudy

--
"Good Taste is Always an Asset"
+---+-------------------------------+
Rudy Bakalov	tel (919) 759-4681
Babcock Graduate School of Management	fax (919) 759-5830
Wake Forest University, NC 27109	Internet bakalov@wfu.edu
+---+-------------------------------+

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Wake Forest University, NC 27109	Internet bakalov@wfu.edu
+---+-------------------------------+

Date: 8 Sep 93 03:29:00 GMT
From: ogicse!emory!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: HELP: What is a good radio?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <26ifoc$bib@quad.wfunet.wfu.edu> bakalov@wfu.edu (Rudy Bakalov) writes:
>   Hi everybody,
>   I got my Extra license and now I am looking for a good HF
>transceiver. Your advice will be highly appreciated.
>   I cannot afford more than $1700 so I am looking at small radios
>like FT-890 and ICOM. I have used all the KENWOOD models up to TS930 and
>I didn't like them at all. I doubt it I will even consider a KENWOOD
>unless someone convinces me that they have changed the design.

You don't say what you don't like about the Kenwood radios. Most of their
HF gear has quite acceptable performance. It may be that you find their
user interface a kludge as I do, but unlike their VHF/UHF designs, the
electrical and thermal performance of most Kenwood HF gear is really pretty
good, and quite popular. Would you care to outline your dislikes?

The only Icom HF rig I can wholeheartedly recommend is the IC-735.
That's one tough little radio with good thermal and electrical design.
I also like the user interface. It's the HF radio I currently use. The
new IC-737 may be good too, but I haven't played with one yet. The other
current Icom HF rigs either lack necessary features, or cost too much.
Older Icom HF rigs, like the 720 and 740 series, fall down in the receiver
department.

I haven't had a chance to use the Yaesu FT-1000, I've heard it's good,
but the older rigs like the FT-757 aren't really competition grade.

The Ten-Tec radios are a quandry. Some of them have quite good basic
receivers and transmitters, but seem to be designed for another era.
The company seems to be flailing around trying to find a market. The
units I've seen have had QC problems, and their latest offering seems
faintly ridiculous with it's plug in band modules.

>   I also wonder if I need a built-in antenna tuner. I realize it is
>a good protection against poor SWR, but I don't think I will ever try to
>use my 2m HT antenna. Plus, I really like the MFJ's Versa tuner. Shall I
>invest my money in extra filters instead?

I wouldn't pay extra for a built in antenna tuner. If you've either got
antennas with acceptable SWR, or have an external tuner you're comfortable
with, then you don't need that extra expense. I may be old fashioned, but
I'd rather turn the knobs myself than have an automatic antenna tuner.
I use an old Dentron tuner. Extra narrow filters are almost always a good
investment. Be careful though, the filter options can be confusing with
high IF and low IF filters, different shape factors, etc. There are also
aftermarket filters for some rigs, like the Kenwoods and Yaesus, that
are sometimes better than the factory offerings.

>   I also must make sure the power supply can handle 220 VAC since I

>will be leaving for Germany soon.

Most all of the switching supplies either automatically deal with this,
or have a voltage selector. Brute force supplies may or may not have
dual primary windings. Many of the physically smaller HF rigs are designed
to work off 13.8 volts DC. You supply the voltage either with a battery,
or with an external supply. Since 13.8 volts DC is a world standard thanks
to the automobile, you can find suitable power supplies anywhere for the
local line standard. If you go this way, it may be best to simply buy a
13.8 volt supply when you get to Germany. Saves on shipping too since
the brute force supplies tend to be very heavy.

Gary

--
Gary Coffman KE4ZV |"If 10% is good enough | gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems | for Jesus, it's good | uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way | enough for Uncle Sam."| emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244 | -Ray Stevens |

Date: Sun, 29 Aug 1993 16:07:20 MDT
From: destroyer!nntp.cs.ubc.ca!alberta!fantom!crs-sys!ersys!adec23!ve6mgs!
usenet@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin #125
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

SB DX @ ALLBBS $OPDX.125
Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin No. 125

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster
DX Bulletin No. 125
BID: $OPDX.125
August 30, 1993
Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW
Provided by BARF-80 BBS Cleveland, Ohio
Online at 216-237-8208 14400/9600/2400/1200/300 8/N/1

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX
Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, DF4RD, DJ0WQ, AD1C, K1ER,
K4CEF & Southeastern Cluster Group, W8CZN, WB8LFO, NW8F, K9AJ, N9NS,
W0RJU and WD0GML for the following DX information.

4U1UN QSL ROUTE. Contrary to what was published in the September 1993
issue of CQ Magazine on page 105, AA2FN is not the QSL Manager of 4U1UN.
In the same issue on page 132, it states that Jim, W8CZN, (NODXA member)
is the QSL Manager, which is correcet. Carmelo, AA2FN, is one of the

operators of 4U1UN and does have access to logs, but Jim, W8ZCN, has all the logs. OPDX was informed there is a backlog of cards, but this due to the station trying to computerize the logs and are experimenting with a couple of logging programs. This will help in a quicker turn around in cards. So, at the present, at the request of 4U1UN, cards are being checked manually from the logs. So please be pateint during this transition.

9G, GHANA. Mike, K9AJ, talked to Randy, 9G1XA (K0EU), this past week and has supplied the following information. (ed. Both are from the AH1A DXpedition team.) Randy will be in Ghana for the next 2 to 3 weeks on business, but will be active when time permits. He is using a TS-450, Alpha amp (1KW), CushCraft R-7 and on 160, an inverted "L" (Aki special) with vertical component about 40 feet. Randy has also taken RTTY gear with him. His emphasis will be on the WARC bands, low bands and RTTY. Suggested frequencies: CW - 3505, 7023, 10103, 14023, 18073, 21023, 24893 and 28023 kHz. SSB - 3795, 7085, 14195, 18115, 21295, 24935 and 28495 kHz. RTTY- 14085, 21085 and 18105 kHz (listening up). On 160 meters, he will be transmitting on 1827 and listening on 1831. Start looking around 0500z for him on 160 (9G sunrise is around 0530z). QSL via K0EU.

9N, NEPAL. Reports say Baldur, DJ6SI, and two other operators are active from 9N-land. There have only been a few reports of activity on the Ohio/Penn Network, but Dieter, DF4RD, has supplied OPDX with a list of spots from two of the Bavarian Contest Club's PacketClusters. Call signs being used are 9N1BD (probably Baldur), 9N1AP and 9N1HL. Activity seems mainly on 20 meters, but there are reports on 15 and 40 meters. Check around 7005 kHz between 2200 and 2300z, 14025 kHz between 1500 and 1600z, and 14195 kHz between 2030 and 2130z. One spot had DJ6JC operating as 9N1HL on RTTY (14084 kHz around 1546z) and reporting to QSL via DJ6JC. The length of this operation is unknown at this time.

AH1A QSL STATUS. John, K1ER, reports all USA cards received direct (e.g SASE) have been mailed. Cards for Italy, Japan and other countries are about done. John expects that all cards received will be answered by mid-September. If you do not receive a card by the end of September, you might drop a note to K1ER.

CY9CWI and WV2B/CY9 QSL CARDS. Cecil, NW8F, reports he is not the QSL Manager for these two operations and has been receiving cards for them. He is the QSL Manager for Art, WA2UJH/CY9 and reports that he has only the log for WA2UJH/CY9. He also reported the cards for WA2UJH/CY9 were out 2 weeks after the end of the operation. QSL CY9CWI to VE2CWI and WV2B/CY9 to CBA.

FK, NEW CALEDONIA. Remi, FK8CP, continues to be active on 160 meters daily. The East Coast guys are working him between 1835-1838 on CW around

1000z.

K5MK/5, DERNIERES ISLAND (IOTA NA-119). Larry, K5MK, and Mike, WD0GML, will be active from here October 15-17. The island is located in the Louisiana State Center group (29-29.5N/90.1-91.4W). Activity will be on 10-40 meters including the WARC bands and on CW/SSB. Suggested frequencies are: SSB - 14260, 21260 and 28460 CW - 30 kHz from the band edge (+/- QRM). QSLs go to K5MK with SASE or the bureau. Additional informantion will be forthcoming.

KH5K CARDS. Mike, N9NS, QSL Manager for the KH5K DXpedition informs OPDX that he now has the QSL cards from the printer and processing has began. Cards should be in the mail now or sometime this week (August 30th).

SV/A MOUNT ATHOS. There still may be hope for an operation. Bruce, WD4NGB, received a telephone call, August 27th, saying that JA3MNP is still in Mount Athos and expects to be active from August 31st to September 2nd. This will be mainly a RTTY operation.

SV9, CRETE. Norbert, OE1NBW, is planning to be active from the Island of Crete between August 29th and September 24th. He will be active mainly on CW, but there will be SSB activity. Look for SV9/OE1NBW/p on the following frequencies: CW - 14009, 21009 and 28009 kHz, on SSB - 14209, 14309, 21209 and 28509 kHz. QSL via CBA or bureau.

ZS9/ZS0 DXpedition (by James, DJ0WQ). "We had a wonderful time on Penguin Island, making about 9500 to 10000 contacts. We had to stay a day longer because of a storm that kept us from leaving the island, but all went well. We will submit the necessary documentation to the ARRL within the next three weeks and the QSL cards will be going out in about two months. The same goes for our ZS9 operation. We made about 6000 contacts." 73's and Good DX de DJ0WQ, James (ed. In last week's bulletin we mentioned Walvis Bay may be headed for deletion because the South African Government "may be" handing over the enclave to Namibia. It was reported that several issues and conditions have to be met before the transfer takes place. So it may be sometime before it actually happens (months to years?).)

ZY1, SANTANA ISLAND (IOTA SA-029). Mendonca, PY1UP (ex-PY0TUP) will be active from this Brazilian Island loacted near Rio de Janeiro. His call sign will be ZY1UP on CW/SSB and he will be active on all bands (except 10 MHz, still not legal in Brazil). QSL to: Joao Batista Guimaraes Mendonca, P.O. Box 108674, Sao Goncalo - RJ, Brazil, 24620-970.

FAX YOUR DX INFORMATION NOW! Faxing is available Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 0430 to 2330z only. The number is 216-237-8208 and the FAX card is sharing the same phone line as BARF-80 BBS using a data/fax/phone switch.

Excerpts and distribution of The OPDX Bulletin are granted as long as
OPDX/BARF80 receive credit. To contribute DX info, call BARF-80 BBS
online at 216-237-8208 14400/9600/2400/1200/300 and leave a message with
the Sysop or send InterNet Mail to: aq474@cleveland.freenet.edu or send
BitNet Mail to: aq474%cleveland.freenet@cunyvm or send PRODIGY Mail to:
DFJH48A or send a message via packet to KB8NW @ WA8BXN.OH.USA.NA

/EXIT

Date: 7 Sep 1993 21:12:36 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!math.ohio-state.edu!usc!yeshua.marcam.com!zip.eecs.umich.edu!
quark.gmi.edu!chiner@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Radio Shack attitudes
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

ksampath@magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu (Krishna S Sampath) writes:
: bad attitude or not, what really irks me is their insistence of having
: "the last four digits of my phone number," every time i am there. i have
: refused to give it in the past, and occasionally still do so, but my
: resolve is weakening..... afterall, the salesdroid is doing what he is
: _instructed_ to.

If you don't want to do this, look up the address of a RS store
somewhere else in the area, and give the address of the other store,
and the last 4 digits of that stores phone number... and whatever
name you like.   :)

--
Chris Hiner
N8TZQ   2m/70cm/10Ghz
chiner@quark.gmi.edu
One of these days, I'll write a .sig

Date: 8 Sep 93 02:48:01 GMT
From: ogicse!emory!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Repeater Directories?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <CCzwz3.Ls@hpcvsnz.cv.hp.com> tomb@lsid.hp.com (Tom Bruhns) writes:
>And others had some similar concerns. Sounds like there is no such thing
>as the ideal repeater directory yet. Is there some sort of concensus about
>what would be in the ideal?

I think the most useful form would be like the World Radio TV Handbook.

They have a single page for each station with a map of the coverage
area of the station, ownership data, information about operating practices,
etc. The same sort of thing could be compiled for amateur machines, but
the coverage maps would require a lot of input since that's not something
that's ususally well documented for amateur repeaters.

A mapping project could be a good club project, however. Sort of like
fox hunting in reverse, find the fringes. As broadcasters know, this
type of data can be very useful for monitoring facilities quality, and
for planning facilities upgrades. I'd think most repeater groups would
want to cooperate.

Gary
--
Gary Coffman KE4ZV |"If 10% is good enough | gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems | for Jesus, it's good | uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way | enough for Uncle Sam."| emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244 | -Ray Stevens |

Date: 07 Sep 1993 20:48:39 GMT
From: swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!usc!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!porgy!mas@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Repeaters for Anza-Borrego
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

This is sort of tangentially related to the repeater directory thread.

Are there any repeaters that give good coverage of Anza-Borrego Desert
State Park, near San Diego? Anything on 2m, 1.25m, or 70cm would be
fine.

I've looked in the ARRL repeater directory, but couldn't find anything
that looked obvious. I was hoping for something located in Borrego
Springs, but no luck. My map of California doesn't have enough detail
to show all the place-names for repeater locations. I'm thinking of
going down to the library to look at some better maps...

Marc
--
Marc Sarrel "My squid's name is Ned, or maybe Fred.
Jet Propulsion Laboratory He's painted red
mas@porgy.jpl.nasa.gov To match his bed.
A pedigreed squid thoroughbred
N7OLI Is Ned, or Fred, or is it Ted?"
-B. Kliban

Date: Wed, 8 Sep 1993 00:26:24 GMT
From: pa.dec.com!e2big.mko.dec.com!regent.enet.dec.com!gettys@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Valued customer at R. Shack gets goodies
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Sep7.141258.27104@CERIS.Purdue.EDU>, dheisler@CERIS.Purdue.EDU
(Dave Heisler) writes...
>I received in the mail today a coupon for a free catalog,
>plus a card for taking 10% off any item every month for
>a year.
>
>hhhmm, maybe giving them my four digits paid off?
>
>d

I got mine today also! Did you see the fact that one of the months
is for August?!!! I didn't get mine until today - September!

/s/ Bob

Date: Tue, 7 Sep 1993 12:33:57 GMT
From: nntp.ucsb.edu!library.ucla.edu!agate!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!nshore!fmsystm!
fmsys!macy@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Yagi for Cellular Phone?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

[Discussion of cellular operation using gain antennas in fringe area]

>I wonder if you might be able to get Down East Microwave to custom
>cut you a yagi for 850 Mhz?

One of the problems with using gain antennas for cellular is
the broad bandwidth required does not match the tuning characteristics
inherent in most designs. Generally speaking, the higher the
gain, the more highly tuned the antenna.

There are several commercially available yagi's for cellular use.

Maxrad, Antenna Specialists, Larsen and others make these.
Most of these are 3 to 6 db gain units. A good source for these
is "Cellular Wholesalers" or "Communications Associates", both
wholesale houses with 800 numbers. (I'm at home right now,
phone list is at office..sorry) (Be sure to act like a not too
bright cellphone retailer when you call, not an enduser, neither is
too keen on selling to endusers.)

Also: Remember that you are dealing with a line of sight propogation
characteristic here. Antenna height is very important. Also remember
that the coax you use will be very important, RG-58A is very lossy
at 850 mhz. Consider the use of either Andrew Heliax (1/2" or 5/8")
or Belden 9913 type low loss cable, with the matching type N connectors.
I'd use low loss cable for anything over 12-20' of feed.

I have bought TNC to N adapters at hamfests. I also bought some
"better than 9913" low loss coax from "Cable Experts" at a local
hamfest that works very well at 800 mhz for the cost. There is
a type of low loss coax cable that is almost the small diameter
of RG-58 called "ProFlex" that might also be useful to you.

So, if you use the right antenna, coax, a 20' mast on top of the
residence, and aim it carefully, you might be satisfied with the
result. Also be sure to use Coax Seal to waterproof the connector
on the antenna. Careful attention to detail is required when working
with 800 mhz to get reliable long term results.

I've used these techniques to provide cellular operation in deep
fringe area for alarm service transmissions and datacom in the past.
They should work for you as well, based on the info you have provided.

BTW, be sure to check out the roaming arrangements and costs with
the carriers involved. Roaming is not always simple or cheap.

--
Macy Hallock N8OBG Voice:+1.216.723.3030 Fax:+1.216.723.3223 macy@telemax.com
Telemax Inc. and F M Systems Inc.   152 Highland Drive   Medina, Ohio 44256 USA

Date: 7 Sep 93 12:44:22 EST
From: nntp.ucsb.edu!library.ucla.edu!agate!spool.mu.edu!nigel.msen.com!ilium!
sycom!jh25s56@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Zenith laptops   soooource of batterys or the little two inch floppys?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Distribution: na
X-BBS-Software: EXCELSIOR! V1.4.b3

Could someone steer me to the person who was posting the articles on hacking the Zenith laptops? I just got one at a garage sale and need help.

de WB8NBS

--
Jim Harvey | "Just because you already bought your groceries
18538 Inkster | doesn't mean you can't go back in the store and
Redford, Mi | look at the tomatoes." Harvey's principle #4
  48240 | jh25s56@sycom.mi.org

Date: Tue, 07 Sep 93 19:25:59 GMT
From: sgi!zok!wattres!steve@ames.arpa
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <2170@arrl.org>, <26fpc0INNaug@topaz.bds.com>,
<26i30r$j0u@charm.magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu>p
Subject : Re: Radio Shack attitudes

In article <26i30r$j0u@charm.magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu> ksampath@magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu (Krishna S Sampath) writes:
>bad attitude or not, what really irks me is their insistence of having
>"the last four digits of my phone number," every time i am there. i have
>refused to give it in the past, and occasionally still do so, but my
>resolve is weakening..... afterall, the salesdroid is doing what he is
>_instructed_ to.

This has come up in other newsgroups, but I'll summarize them to here:
The reason they want the last 4 digits of your phone number is for a (semi)unique ID for local customers. They don't daemon dial every prefix and those suffixes for anything. If you don't want them knowing the last 4 digits, make something up. 3141 (first 4 of Pi) work well, or 2818 or the month/day of your birthday (i.e.1909 for 19 Sept... or is that 0919? ;) and so forth. All they want is the same number every time.

>further, here in columbus ohio, i am yet to find a suitable retail place
>where i can just walk in and buy say, a phono jack. since i do not want
>to wait 4-7 days to get a single diode or an audio transformer, whether
>i like it or not, i have to shop at radioshack.

And that's why they charge more for all those little things. Have you ever bought bread or milk at a 7-11? You pay a certain (fairly large) premium for having something "right now, right here." Whether that premium is worth it is up to the individual. Ain't captialism great?

73 de KD6GGD
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Steve Watt KD6GGD   Packet: KD6GGD @ N0ARY.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA
ICBM: 121W 56' 53.1" / 37N 20' 16.7"   Internet: steve@wattres.SJ.CA.US
"I am always ready to learn, although I don't always like being taught."
     -- Winston Churchill

Date: 8 Sep 1993 00:37:42 -0400
From: noc.near.net!news.delphi.com!news.delphi.com!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <CCsEKE.E6J@spk.hp.com>, <26928d$aop@news.delphi.com>,
<N4HY.93Sep7093718@wahoo.ccr-p.ida.org>
Subject : Re: W9GR DSP KIT ??

n4hy@wahoo.ccr-p.ida.org (Bob McGwier) writes:

>>Marc, DSP theory suggests that a serious CW operator will not be satisfied
>>with the available 50 db dynamic range from an 8-bit A/D. Timewave has
>>vastly superior hardware with a 16-bit sigma-delat A/D...KG7BK

>Please describe what you mean.

>Robert W. McGwier | n4hy@ccr-p.ida.org

8-bit A/Ds have a dynamic range of around 50db. 16-bit A/Ds have a dynamic
range of around 98 db. My personal opinion is that one needs around 70db
dynamic range for serious CW work. Delat is a typo. Sigma-delta A/Ds
push most of the quantization noise outside the range of human hearing.
I know nothing about Timewave's firmware, but their A/D hardware is
superior to 8-bit systems.

Consider a 5v broadcast heterodyne near a 50 mV CW signal. In an 8-bit
A/D system the 5v signal doesn't allow enough resolution in the 50 mV
desired signal while a 16-bit A/D system does. I have not tested any
commercially available DSP devices but I have given up on trying to
use an 8-bit A/D for 40M CW. This is only my personal opinion but I
believe that 8-bit offerings were obsolete when they were introduced.

The moral is, look before you leap... KG7BK

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #1059
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